

Message Text

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SUBJECT: UKRAINIAN PRESS CRITICISES USIA REORGANIZATION

1. SUMMARY: THE CENTRAL UKRAINIAN-LANGUAGE DAILY, RADYANS'KA UKRAYINA, PUBLISHED A CRITICAL ARTICLE ON USIA AND VOA IN ITS EDITION OF FEBRUARY 7, 1978. THE ARTICLE, WRITTEN BY ONE G. KOROTAYEVSKIY, ATTEMPTS TO LINK THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS WITH CIA AND SUGGESTS THAT USIA REORGANIZATION IS JUST ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE ON THE IDEOLOGICAL FRONT. USIA DIRECTOR REINHARDT IS VIEWED AS HARDLY DIFFERING IN OUTLOOK FROM THE HEADS OF RL AND RFE. END SUMMARY.

2. ENTITLED "ANATOMY OF ANTICOMMUNISM: THE VOICE, EAR AND DOUBLE OF CIA" KOROTAYEVSKIY'S ARTICLE BEGINS BY ASCRIBING MOTIVE FOR USIA REORGANIZATION TO INFIGHTING OVER CONTROL OF THE VOICE OF AMERICA BETWEEN USIA AND STATE DEPARTMENT.

3. ARTICLE REVIEWS AGENCY'S EARLY HISTORY AS PARTICIPANT IN "IDEOLOGICAL CRUSADE" AGAINST USSR. RECALLING 1942
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PROMISE "TO TELL THE TRUTH," AUTHOR CITES POINT SEVEN OF REINHARDT-CHRISTOPHER AGREEMENT ON USIA REORGANIZATION, "THE FURNISHING OF ACCURATE EVALUATIONS OF THE VIEWS AND MAJOR PROBLEMS OF OTHER COUNTRIES," AND COMMENTS THAT REINHARDT'S EVALUATIONS MAY BE JUDGED FROM HIS MAY 1977 STATEMENT BEFORE THE MEMBERS OF THE SO-CALLED "COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE RESULTS OF THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT", WHEN

HIS VIEWS "HARDLY DIFFERED FROM THOSE OF THE CHIEFS OF RADIO LIBERTY AND RADIO FREE EUROPE."

4. KOROTAYEVSKIY ACCUSES USIA OF SECRET COORDINATION WITH NATO PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SPECIALISTS, ESPECIALLY IN THE SO-CALLED DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN IN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. ONE THING THAT NEED NOT BE DOUBTED SAYS THE AUTHOR, IS THAT THE AIM OF THE NEW REORGANIZATION OF THE US AGENCIES OF FOREIGN PROPAGANDA IS TO TAKE AWAY FROM THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES THE INITIATIVE ON THE IDEOLOGICAL FRONT AND TO INCREASE US PRESTIGE, FALLEN TO ITS LOWEST POINT IN HISTORY. THE DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC OPINION, GEORGE GALLUP, IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE MISSION OF THE NEW AGENCY (ICA) WILL BE TO CAMPAIGN AGGRESSIVELY TO "CONVERT PEOPLE TO OUR (AMERICAN) WAY OF LIFE."

5. KOROTAYEVSKIY REVIEWS PROPOSALS FOR THE VOA, "USIA'S MAIN CHANNEL FOR PENETRATING THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES," TO INCREASE THE RADIO'S EFFECTIVENESS BY MAKING IT INDEPENDENT OR LINKING IT WITH RL AND RFE. IT IS SAID THAT THE DECISION TO MAKE VOA PART OF THE NEW AGENCY WILL PRESERVE ITS ALMOST COMPLETE FREEDOM OF ACTION. IT SEEMS MORE LIKELY, SAYS THE AUTHOR, THAT VOA'S ONLY FREEDOM OF ACTION WILL BE IN CARRYING OUT SUBVERSION PROPAGANDA AGAINST THE SOCIALIST WORLD.
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6. AGAIN RECALLING THAT "WE WILL TELL YOU THE TRUTH," KOROTAYEVSKIY NOTES THE STATEMENT OF FORMER USIA OFFICIAL, PROF. KENNETH RUBIN, THAT USIA IS THE US OPEN OR WHITE PROPAGANDA AGENCY AND ITS DOUBLE, CIA, IS THE BLACK PROPAGANDA AGENCY. THE AUTHOR CITES OPINION OF NY NEWS OF THE WORLD THAT USIA IS "MORE IMPORTANT THAN A BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF NUCLEAR ARMS". GIVEN SUCH VIEWS, IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO CONCLUDE THAT THE COLD WAR IS NOW OVER, HE OBSERVES. KOROTAYEVSKIY CONCLUDES ON NOTE THAT HYSTERICAL ANTI-COMMUNISM NEVER LED TO ANY GOOD AND THAT A BETTER FUTURE IS OFFERED BY MUTUAL COEXISTENCE IN CONDITIONS OF HONEST PEACE AND REASONABLE SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS. TIME WILL TELL WHETHER GOOD AND REALISM WILL PREVAIL AT 1776 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

7. COMMENT: THE ADVANCE PARTY OF CONGEN KIEV HAS NOT NOTED OTHER ARTICLES CRITICAL OF USIA OR VOA IN RECENT MONTHS. HOWEVER, GIVEN ITS APPEARANCE IN A MAJOR NEWSPAPER AND THE APPARENT WIDE LISTENERSHIP FOR VOA HERE, THIS ARTICLE HAS ALL THE EARMARKS OF AN ATTEMPT TO WARN LISTENERS AWAY FROM THE RADIO. ATTACKS ON RL AND RFE ARE

COMMON IN THE UKRAINIAN PRESS AND USUALLY SHARPER THAN
KOROTAYEVSKIY'S. ADDITIONALLY, WE NOTE THAT ALTHOUGH
DIRECTOR REINHARDT'S CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY HAS BEEN
CITED BEFORE IN THE SOVIET PRESS, KOROTAYEVSKIY'S PIECE
SEEMS TO BE A SHARPER AD HOMINEM ATTACK. MATLOCK

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